

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 OMB-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 /130 W
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R 111045 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9501

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY KABUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1209

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, CE, CH

SUBJ: CHOU EN- LAI WILL NOT ATTEND OPENING OF BANDARANAIKE
MEMORIAL HALL

CINCPAC PASS POLAD

REF: COLOMBO 1098, COLOMBO 1201 (NOTAL)

1. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT MARSHAL HSU HSIANG- CHIEN, VICE CHAIRMAN OF STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL PEOPLES CONGRESS, WILL ATTEND OPENING OF BANDARANAIKE MEMORIAL HALL MAY 17 IN PLACE OF CHOU- EN- LAI. FOR WEEKS CEYLONSE PRESS HAS BEEN TOUTING EXPECTED PRESENCE OF CHOU AT OPENING, AND PRIME MINISTER HAS, INDEED, BEEN HOPING CHOU WOULD COME (COLOMBO 1098). MARSHAL HSU WILL HEAD 26- MEMBER DELEGATION, WHICH EX-
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PECTED ARRIVE MAY 15 FOR STAY OF UP TO FIVE DAYS.

2. CHINESE HAVE SPENT MORE THAN TWO YEARS IN BUILDING BANDARANAIKE MEMORIAL HALL AT REPORTED COST OF RS 35 MILLION. ABOUT 450 CHINESE WORKMEN ASSISTED BY CEYLONese PARTICIPATED IN CONSTRUCTION OF HANDSOME BUILDING LOCATED ON BULLER ROAD IN CINNAMON GARDENS SECTION OF COLOMBO. GSL HOPES UTILIZE BUILDING FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND HAS ALREADY LINED UP ECAFE MEETING FOR 1974, ALTHOUGH IT CONSPICUOUSLY FAILED TO WIN APPROVAL AT GEORGETOWN TO HOLD CONFERENCE OF NON- ALIGNED NATIONS HERE IN SEPT.

3. GSL PLANNING BIG OPENING CEREMONY AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OVER THREE- DAY PERIOD. TWO DAYS LATER IT WILL CELEBRATE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA. FOLLOWING IMMENSE CROWDS AT DUDLEY SENANAYAKE OBSEQUIES GSL HAS DISPLAYED GREAT INTEREST IN TURN- OUTS AT ITS OWN AFFAIRS TO PROVE TO ITSELF AND OTHERS THAT UNITED FRONT GOVT STILL HAS SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE.
VAN HOLLEN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: PFOR, CE, CH
To: AIT TAIPEI
CINCPAC
HONG KONG
ISLAMABAD
LONDON
NEA
NEW DELHI

SECSTATE WASHDC

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